

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 01549 031543Z
ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /042 W
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INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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PASS AID FOR NE/ME

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID,IS
SUBJECT: VOLAG OPERATIONS IN THE TERRITORIES, THE GOI, AND THE USG

1. STANDING IN THE SHADOW OF THE CURRENT ANERA-GOI FLAP IS THE MORE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEM OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF AID-FUNDED VOLAG PROGRAMS IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO THE GOI, PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO NEW PROGRAMS FUNDED FROM THE MIDDLE EAST SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FUND. THE DOMINANT VIEW IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL WELFARE (MSW), ARTICULATED BY DEPUTY DG AVITZUR, IS THAT THE SEVERAL NEW VOLAG OPERATIONS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN "JOINTLY" AND IN "COORDINATION" WITH THE MSW WITHIN WHAT THE LATTER CONSIDERS AN APPROPRIATE SOCIAL WELFARE FRAMEWORK. ANERA AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (CDF) HAVE BOTH BEEN TOLD BY THE MSW THAT SUCH JOINT PROGRAMS WILL BE A REQUIRED ELEMENT OF THEIR OPERATION. THIS REQUIREMENT APPEARS TO BE UNACCEPTABLE TO ANERA AND CDF AND POSSIBLY TO OTHER VOLAGS WHO MIGHT IN THE FUTURE BE INTERESTED IN WORKING IN THE TERRITORIES. THE ANERA AND CDF REPS RECOGNIZE THE FACTS OF LIFE OF WORKING WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION, BUT THEY CONSIDER AS APPROPRIATE AND DESIRABLE A MORE LIMITED RELATIONSHIP OF CONSULTATION

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 01549 031543Z

AND LIAISON WITH THE MSW. HOPING TO REMAIN AS AUTONOMOUS AS POSSIBLE, AND ASSUMING THAT THE USG SYMPATHIZES WITH THIS AIM, THE LOCAL ANERA AND CDF REPS HAVE SOUGHT OUR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN COPING WITH THIS SITUATION.

2. DURING A CALL BY HOLTAWAY OF AID/W AND AN EMBOFF ON GONNEN OF THE MFA (REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF

THE TERRITORIES, THE ISSUE OF MSW'S DEMANDS FOR JOINT PROGRAMS WITH THE VOLAGS AROSE. GONNEN WAS APPRAISED OF THE SITUATION, AND HE RECOGNIZED THE POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS THAT COULD ENSURE SHOULD MSW PRESSURES ULTIMATELY LEAD CDF AND ANERA TO CLOSE DOWN THEIR PROGRAMS AND RETURN THEIR GRANTS TO AID. GONNEN EXPLAINED THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT BEEN INVOLVED WITH THIS SUBJECT PRIOR TO THE ANERA FLAP, HE DID WANT TO MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO RESOLVING THE PROBLEM. HE SUGGESTED THAT HE COULD BE INSTRUMENTAL IN ENLIGHTENING THE MSW AS TO THE POLITICAL DIMENSIONS OF THE SITUATION AND ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED. WE AGREED WITH HIS PROPOSAL THAT THE CDF REP CONTACT HIM AND EXPLAIN HIS PROBLEMS WITH THE MSW REP IN GAZA. GONNEN HAS ALREADY MET WITH THE ANERA REP, AND PLANS TO SEE HIM AGAIN AFTER RESOLUTION OF THE BROCHURE ISSUE. GONNEN ADDED THAT HE WOULD TAKE UP THE VOLAG SITUATION WITH AVITZUR WHEN THE LATTER RETURNS FROM RESERVE DUTY ON MARCH 10. GONNEN ALSO SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO CONTACT SENIOR MILITARY GOVERNMENT FIGURES SHOULD THIS BE NECESSARY TO RESOLVE THE MATTER.

3. LANGLEY OF AID/W AND AN EMBOFF ALSO CALLED ON LAVINE, AVITZUR'S DEPUTY, AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT GOI INSISTENCE ON JOINT PROGRAMS COULD THREATEN CONTINUED OPERATION AND PLANNED EXPANSION OF VOLAG PROGRAMS IN THE TERRITORIES. IN A SEPARATE MEETING AFTERWARD, THE EMBOFF INQUIRED WHY THE MSW WAS TREATING CDF AND ANERA DIFFERENTLY THAN THE OTHER VOLAGS, WHO HAVE NOT BEEN PRESSED FOR JOINT PROGRAMS. LAVINE DID NOT WANT TO ADMIT THAT THERE WAS A MAJOR DIFFERENTIAL OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 TEL AV 01549 031543Z

REFERENCE IN TREATMENT BUT DID MAKE THE POINT THAT VOLAG OPERATIONS IN GAZA WERE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE. HE AGREED THAT AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO AVOID CREATING A SITUATION WHICH COULD LEAD TO POLITICAL COMPLICATIONS, AND SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND TO AVITZUR THAT THE MSW TRY TO FIND A MIDDLE GROUND ACCEPTABLE TO THE VOLAGS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO WHETHER HE COULD CONVINCE AVITZUR. DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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